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SENT VIA EMAIL

May 15, 2006

306 Townsend Street
Michael Franck Building
Lansing, MI
48933-2083

The Honorable Leon Drolet
Chair, House Government Operations Committee
State Representative
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

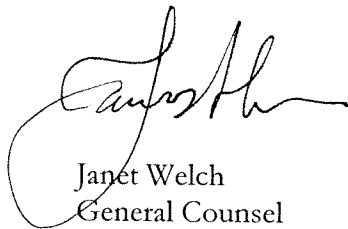
Re: HB 5132 (Baxter) Public Documents
May 16, 2006: House Government Operations Committee

Dear Chairman Drolet:

At its November 18, 2005 meeting, the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan unanimously voted to **oppose in principle*** **HB 5132**. The position was adopted after consideration of a recommendation from the State Bar's Libraries, Legal Resources & Legal Publications Committee.

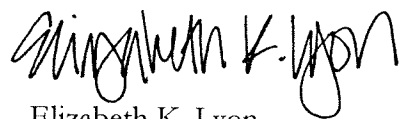
The basis of the State Bar's position is a concern that as introduced, the bill does not require a paper copy to be preserved once a document is available online. Because the availability of online documents may not be consistent or wholly reliable in the future when Internet sources are updated, changed or management is transferred, the Bar believes that preservation of a paper copy is advisable.

We appreciate your consideration of the State Bar's position. If you would like to discuss this position in further detail or have questions, please contact Janet Welch directly at (517) 346-6375, jwelch@mail.michbar.org; or Elizabeth Lyon directly at (517) 346-6325, elyon@mail.michbar.org.



Janet Welch
General Counsel

Sincerely,



Elizabeth K. Lyon
Public Policy Program Analyst

* Definition of oppose in principle: pending legislation which the State Bar opposes, but which is not the subject of active lobbying effort. The State Bar is on record on this position and will explain it upon request.

CC. Representative Rick Baxter
Representative Judy Emmons, House Government Operations Committee
Representative John Garfield, House Government Operations Committee
Representative Robert Gosselin, House Government Operations Committee
Representative Jacob Hoogendyk, Majority Vice Chair, House Government Operations Committee
Representative Alexander Lispey, House Government Operations Committee
Representative LaMar Lemmons III, House Government Operations Committee
Representative Fulton Sheen, House Government Operations Committee
Representative Steve Tobocman, Minority Vice-Chair, House Government Operations Committee
Thomas W. Cranmer, President
John T. Berry, Executive Director
Nell Kuhnmuensch, Governmental Consultant Services, Inc.